(c) Full Court of the High Court of Delhi passed a resolution on 10.01.2006 in which certain directions have been issued to the subordinate courts to meet the situation arising out of the strike by advocates.

Appointment of Law Officer to plead defreezing of Quattrocchi's bank accounts

826. SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI:
SHRI AMAR SINGH:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a senior Law Officer was deputed to plead with the British Crown Prosecution Service that Mr. Quattrocchi's bank accounts be defrozen as there is no evidence linking him with Bofors deal;

(b) whether the British authorities were also conveyed that the Bofors case had been quashed by courts in India and Government do not want to pursue the matter further; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and on what grounds British authorities were informed, when a criminal case is pending against Mr. Quattrocchi in Indian Courts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI K. VENKATAPATHY): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Defreezing of Quattrocchi's bank accounts

827. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact the Additional Solicitor General went to London to inform the crown Prosecutor that amount deposited in the two British accounts be paid to Mr. Quattrocchi after defreezing the accounts and if so, under whose orders; and

(b) whether it is also a fact that his Ministry was not officially connected with the Bofors case and if so, the reasons for deputing an official of his Ministry to plead with the British authorities to defreeze the accounts of Quattrocchi?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI K. VENKATAPATHY): (a) to (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Simplification of mining policy

828. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to simplify the mining policy;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Australia proposes to have mining cooperation with India; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY): (a) to (b) A High Level Committee has been set up under the chairmanship of Shri Anwar-ul Hoda, Member, Planning Commission to review the National Mineral Policy, 1993 and recommend possible amendments to the Mines and Minerals (Development & Regulation) Act, 1957 to give a fillip to private investment in the sector. The Committee, *inter alia,* will also review the existing procedures for granting reconnaissance permit, prospecting licence and mining lease and suggest ways for their streamlining and simplification.

(c) and (d) A India-Australian Joint Working Group on Energy and Minerals has already been constituted under the aegis of the India-Australia Joint Ministerial Commission to facilitate cooperation through exchange of information, trade promotion and investment in energy and mineral sector for mutual benefit.

Welfare measures for tribal workers

†829. SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any order, recommendation or suggestion for welfare measures, such as construction of residential colony school buildings, lighting and arrangement of water, for tribal workers working for captive

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.